

Current Events Guidelines & Scoring Rubric

Name: _____

Each student will give a Current Events Presentation during the school year. You are required to meet with me in person about a week ahead of time to choose a topic and start planning your presentation. You should choose a significant international **or** domestic news story. As you look for story ideas, try to choose a topic that involves a controversial issue in order to facilitate class discussion. (For example, a story about U.S. withdrawing troops from Afghanistan would lead to more discussion opportunities than a story reporting on a tornado in Oklahoma.)

The presentation is a cornerstone for this course so you must earn 80% or better.

Research and Preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student chooses significant domestic or international story that involves a controversial issue to facilitate class discussion. • Student thoroughly reads and uses info. from <u>at least</u> two news articles to gain knowledge about issue. • Responds promptly to teacher email and meets in person with teacher for initial planning • Uses feedback on shared Google Presentation to improve before presenting 	Points: /20
Summary and Analysis of News Story	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation provides an accurate, in-depth summary of the key elements of the story (background, what happened, where, who is involved, etc.) • Accurately and thoroughly explains the significance of this story. What impact does it have on the world or the people in the country or region? • Student clearly understands what he/she is presenting, can elaborate on key points, and answer questions 	Points: /40
Slide Design and Proofreading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Text on slides - limit amount of words- PHRASES not sentences • Font is large enough to be easily read (at least size 20 font) • Slides are proofread for accurate spelling and grammar • There is a relevant image on each slide. Presentation should include a combination of the following visuals, which should be introduced and explained: (*=required) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> photographs* <input type="checkbox"/> video clip* <input type="checkbox"/> editorial cartoon + analysis* <input type="checkbox"/> informative graphics + explanation <input type="checkbox"/> map (for most topics, required) 	Points: /20
Presentation Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is well-prepared, organized and enthusiastic • Uses notes to elaborate on information presented on slides • Makes eye contact naturally throughout presentation • Avoids reading directly from slides • Speaks clearly without hesitation • Pace and volume enhance presentation 	Points: /10
Facilitating Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student develops 2-3 questions to engage class in discussion • Includes discussion prompts on final slide of presentation • Student facilitates class discussion 	Points: /5
Citing Sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide URL link for all images near image • Provide a URL link for all news sources on final slide 	Points: /5